

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044
1400 Tenth Street, Rm 2
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Fish and Wildlife
Marine Region
1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

Project Title: Characterizing presence, habitat use, and movement of green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*) in Humboldt & Del Norte County with visual/aerial surveys & hook and line angling to deploy pop-up satellite archival tags

Project Location: Humboldt Bay

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for educational purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially take white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*), coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) during the course of sampling, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this sampling is for the California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt's green sturgeon tagging study. The applicant will conduct research and tagging of green sturgeon through the use of hook & line through December 31, 2027.

California Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Dr. Darren Ward, California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt


Exempt Status:

- Ministerial;
- Declared Emergency;
- Emergency Project;
- Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Calif. Code Regs., § 15306, Information Collection, Class 6

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project involves research and tagging of green sturgeon within Humboldt Bay which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to white sturgeon, coho salmon, Chinook salmon, and steelhead trout which are all listed under the California Endangered Species Act.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dylan Inskeep

Telephone: (707) 317-3924

Signature:  _____ **Date:** 9/23/24
Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____